include standardisation of sampling/testing of the waxy crude for optimising the performance in the laboratory under simulated field conditions and their compatability with other chemicals/additives such as corrosion inhibitors, demulsifiers and formation waters. The study will also include effect of different cooling cycles on the performance of crude treated with flow improvers so as to ensure transportation of crude through sub-sea pipelines providing safeguards in case of shutdowns. The contract is for Rs. 52 lakhs.

LPG Connections

2091. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to cover particular population in the country by giving LPG cooking gas connections;

(b) whether there is any proposal to cover certain population by some alternate sources of energy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Apart from release of new connections in existing markets under the annual enrolment programme, generally, towns with a population of 20,000 and above and offering potential for economically viable marketing of LPG are being taken up in a phased manner.

(b) and (c) Other alternative sources of energy which are being popularised in the country are Biogas, Solar energy, Biomass etc. These alternative sources of energy are being encouraged in various parts of the country based on the potential, details of wrich are as under:

(i) A target of setting up 1.5 lakh family-based biogas plants has been set for 1985-86 throughout the country except in certain areas which do not have potential for biogas plants. Under this scheme, over 1 lakh plants have been set up by January, 1986.

(ii) Solar Cookers are being sold in the country to meet the cooking energy requirement of various sectors and a Subsidy of 33-1/3 per cent is being given by the Government to popularise this scheme.

(iii) Under the Biomass Programmes, energy plantation has been taken up on degraded/marginal wastelands during 1985-86, a target of 6,000 hectare has been taken. The wood available from this source would be utilized to meet cooking fuel needs as well as feed-stock for the gasifiers.

Purchase of Helicopters for ONGC

2092. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC would require 22 medium size and seven large size helicopters during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether a senior retired executive of the ONGC has written to the Government that the old system of contracted helicopters which are use for ONGC is more economical than the present deal contemplated for buying of helicopters;

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative whether Government have examined the letter of the retired executive; and

(d) what will be the cost of helicopters which are contemplated to be bought for the ONGC and which are the countries from where the helicopters are to be purchased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) ONGC have estimated their requirement of helicopters during the Seventh Plan period as up to 26 medium sized helicopters.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) ONGC do not propose to buy any helicopters themselves. The Helicopter Corporation Ltd. would be providing helicopter support for the oil sector.

Wind Pumps etc. operating on Coastal Regions

2093. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the number of wind pumps, battery chargers and wind energy farms operating in the coastal regions of Gujarat, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The position with regard to the installation of windpumps, wind battery chargers and wind farms installed in the States of Gujarat, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh is given below:

States	Wind pumps	Wind battery chargers	Wind farms
Gujarat	94	2	2 (1 MW at Mandvi, 550 KW at Okha)*
Orissa	144	2	1 (550 KW at Puri, nearing completion)
Maharashtra	111	..	1 (550 KW at Deogarh, nearing completion)
Tamil Nadu	83	2	1 (550 KW at Tuticorin)
Andhra Pradesh	162	..	..

*In addition one grid-connected 40 KW wind electric generator is also operational in Gujarat.

Energy Conservation Policy

2094. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to frame a comprehensive energy conservation policy;

(b) if so, what will be the cost of implementation of the policy; and

(c) what are the suggestion of the inter-ministerial group and the D. V. Kapoor Committee that studied the issue?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Detailed measures for implementing the Energy Conservation policy are being worked out.

(b) The cost of implementation can be assessed after the energy conservation measures have been finalised and approved in totality.